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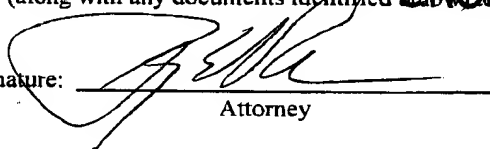
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Date: May 2, 2003

Signature: 

Attorney

TO: EXAMINER SHIN LIN CHEN (Telephone No.: (703) 305-1678)
GROUP ART UNIT: 1632

FACSIMILE NO.: (703) 308-4242

FROM: Perry E. Van Over
Reg. No. 42,197
Telephone No.: (202) 861-3917

DATE: May 2, 2003

RE: U.S. APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: 09/811,509
FILED: MARCH 20, 2001
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 9958-002-27 CONT

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 7

COMMENTS

In the event any fees are due, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge the required fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1442. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

The documents included with this filing by facsimile transmission are:

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT INCLUDING 1 ATTACHMENT

DOCKET NO. 9958-002-27 CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: JOHN N. SHANNON, ET AL. ART UNIT: 1632

SERIAL NO.: 09/811,509

EXAMINER: CHEN, SHIN LIN

FILING DATE: MARCH 20, 2001

FOR: METHODS AND ORGANISMS FOR CONCENTRATING AND
RECOVERING METAL SAND MINERALS FROM AQUEOUS MEDIA

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

This Supplemental Amendment is submitted further in answer to the Response filed March 3, 2003, Supplemental Response filed April 30, 2003 and Interview with Examiner Chen on May 1, 2003.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Sub B1  23. (Amended) A method of recovering metals and minerals from sea water,
comprising:
 contacting a sponge with sea water, said sponge having a symbiotic relationship with
a bacteria capable of concentrating said metal or mineral, so as to concentrate the metal or
mineral in the bacteria; and
recovering the concentrated metal or mineral from the bacteria.